

Remarks

Claims 1-18, 37 and 38 are pending. Claims 1-18, 37 and 38 are rejected. The Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's acceptance as formal drawings the drawings filed on March 24, 2004.

Obviousness-type Double Patenting

Claims 1-18, 37 and 38 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-38 of U.S. Patent No. 6,713,479. Therefore, to expedite prosecution to allowance of the pending claims, the Applicants submit herewith a Terminal Disclaimer, corresponding to the patent cited by the Examiner, that complies with the requirements of 37 CFR 1.321(c). The Disclaimer is accompanied by the required fee. 37 CFR 1.321(c). Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Fees

The Applicants believe no additional fee is required in connection with the filing of this paper. Nevertheless, the Director is hereby authorized to charge any required fee to our Deposit Account, **06-1448**.

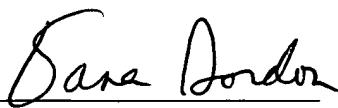
Conclusion

In view of the above remarks, it is believed that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the pending rejections. The Applicants thank the Examiner for careful consideration of the present case. If a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would expedite prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
FOLEY HOAG LLP

Patent Group
FOLEY HOAG LLP
155 Seaport Boulevard
Boston, MA 02210
(617) 832-1000

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Dana M. Gordon, Ph.D.
Registration No. 44,719
Attorney for Applicants